

Anwar claims mass suspect-voters ploy in GE13
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By Syed Jaymal Zahiid

PETALING JAYA, May 2 — Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim today accused the Election Commission (EC) and the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) of involvement in an operation to transport more than 40,000 dubious voters from Sabah and Sarawak to key states in the peninsula.

The opposition leader said Pakatan Rakyat (PR) has "credible" documentary evidence that groups of foreign nationals have been brought in on 16 daily chartered flights, including the usage of a Boeing 747, since April 25.

Among the evidence was a copy of email correspondence allegedly issued from the PMO, in which details of the purported operation were discussed.

"We have credible documentary evidence that these groups of foreign nationals are being transported from the airports to various sequestration points within Selangor/Kuala Lumpur and the other affected states using transport provided by various government agencies as well as chartered bus operators," Anwar told a press conference here.

The information on the flights was provided by staff from flag carrier MAS and budget airline AisAsia, the PKR de facto leader said.

Anwar also alleged of a surge in arrivals of foreign workers from Thailand, Cambodia, Pakistan and Myanmar through Bukit Kayu Hitam as well as those from Indonesia through Port Klang and other coastal entry points.

"The timing of this surge in arrivals and its sheer size naturally raise the question of whether they have been transported here surreptitiously to vote in favour of Barisan Nasional (BN)," the former deputy prime minister said.

PR said it has received information that as many as 4,500 people are being transported via in-bound flights into the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) in Sepang each day, beginning a week ago.

Anwar claimed the groups are now stationed at several immigration depots and Territorial Army camps in Peninsular Malaysia.

He also suspected foreign workers are being given Malaysian identity cards at the Sepang Formula 1 Circuit and KLIA.

The PKR de facto leader demanded an explanation from all the heads of the implicated departments as well as from the election regulator.

The Immigration Department, however, has denied the allegation.

"The answer is no," Immigration Department director-general Datuk Alias Ahmad told The Malaysian Insider in a text message today.

"In fact, the numbers was (sic) decreased at depots," Alias added, referring to the number of detainees at the immigration detention centres.

Anwar said PR would accept his explanation if the department could show the papers to back its denial but he maintained that Putrajaya must still explain the mass "movements" of the foreign nationals using official channels he insisted was happening just a few days before Polling Day on Sunday.

"We warn the Election Commission and its cahoots that there are many patriotic Malaysians in the various security agencies, airlines and airport employees who are angry and upset that the sovereignty of the country is being compromised.

"These patriots are monitoring and documenting all the suspicious movements, groups or individuals," he said.

Anwar claimed PR was now close to a historic win, judging from the overwhelming response to its campaign but express concern that the attempted fraud could deny the coalition and the Malaysian people their democratic right to elect a government of their choice.

He said one of the ways to offset possible vote rigging was for voters to turn out in big numbers to cast their ballots.

In a bid to coax voters to come out and vote on Sunday, he said PR would declare May 6 a public holiday in the event the pact wins the election.

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